

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

This application is the National Phase of International Patent Application No. PCT/US2004/033516, filed on October 12, 2004, and claims priority under 35 USC §119(e) to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Nos. 60/510,262, filed on October 9, 2003; 60/519,736, filed on November 12, 2003; and 60/568,468, filed on May 5, 2004, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

In some embodiments, the compound or agent is a nucleic acid, polypeptide, peptide, or small molecule, e.g., an HRD1 nucleic acid, polypeptide, or a functional fragment thereof, e.g., the functional fragment is or encodes a peptide comprising the cytosolic RING-H2 domain of HRD1 or a homolog thereof, a peptide comprising amino acids 291-333 of SEQ ID NOs:40 ~~or~~ 42 39 or 41, or a peptide comprising amino acids 272-243 of SEQ ID NOs:40 ~~or~~ 42 39 or 41.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

Further, the invention includes therapeutic ~~composition~~ compositions for the treatment of an ER stress disorder. In some embodiments, the therapeutic composition includes an HRD1 nucleic acid, polypeptide, or a functional fragment thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, e.g., the functional fragment is or encodes a peptide comprising the cytosolic RING-H2 domain of HRD1 or a homolog thereof, a peptide comprising amino acids 291-333 of SEQ ID NOs:40 ~~or~~ 42 39 or 41, or a peptide comprising amino acids 272-243 of SEQ ID NOs:40 ~~or~~ 42 39 or 41.